

REMARKS

This request for reconsideration is offered in response to the Office Action of January 19, 2005. The applicants acknowledge and appreciate the time and consideration of the Examiner for allowing a telephone interview to be conducted on May 19, 2005 to review the differences between the claimed invention and the reference cited by the Examiner in the Office Action of January 19, 2005.

The Office Action rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shinada reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,643,738). The Office Action also objected to Claims 2-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as unpatentable over Shinada reference in view of Tsukada (JP Patent 20011328279) and further in view of Erickson (U.S. Patent No. 6,164,766). The Office Action stated that Claims 2-18 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 19 and 20 were allowed.

Examiner and Applicant's attorney discussed by telephone on May 19, 2005, the patentability of Claim 1, particularly concerning the difference between Claim 1 wherein the communication between the rooms of the ink chamber occurs at the top of the dividing wall and the Shinada reference which discloses a device where the communication is at the bottom of the separating wall.

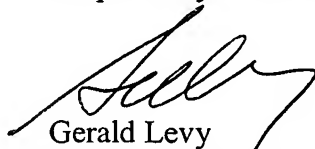
Applicant's attorney particularly pointed out that claim 1 includes the language that the plurality of rooms communicate with each other at an upper portion which is above an upper end of the at least one wall. In contrast, Shinada reference discloses in Figure 9 and in Column 11, Line 34-42, a communication hole 83a located at the bottom portion of the partition wall 83.

Additionally, the Examiner brought to the attention of the Applicant's attorney, several

inconsistencies in the language used in claims 1, 19 and 20. These have been corrected.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of the claims, to allow the claims, and to pass this application to early issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerald Levy', is written over the printed name.

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